

## WILD BLUEBERRIES

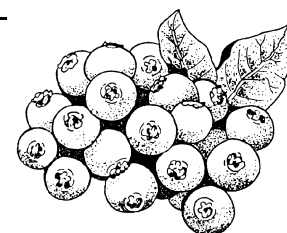
Maine is the leading wild blueberry producing state in the nation. The lowbush blueberry production for Maine totaled 66 million pounds in 1999, 5 percent above the 1998 production total, but 11 percent below production two years earlier. In general, the 1999 crop had no visible evidence of winterkill to bushes. The season got off to an early start due to mild winter conditions that continued into the spring. Good bloom was reported at many locations,

and was accompanied by excellent pollinating conditions. As of mid-June, crop development averaged 10-14 days early, with good to excellent fruit set. Operators reported good berry size and quality as of mid-July, however lack of significant rainfall placed severe stress on the crop. The value of processed production in 1999 was placed at \$33.6 million, an average of 51 cents per pound.

**WILD BLUEBERRIES: Production and Value, 1990 - 1999**

STATE & YEAR	Total Production <sup>1/</sup>	Blueberries for Processing		
		Production	Price per Pound	Value of Production
	1,000 Pounds		Cents	1,000 Dollars
<b>Maine</b>				
1990	75,294	74,951	37	27,732
1991	39,464	39,255	46	18,057
1992	84,513	84,193	41	34,519
1993	64,562	64,212	28	17,979
1994	59,495	59,145	30	17,744
1995	65,944	65,639	32	21,004
1996	59,198	58,930	57	33,590
1997	73,816	73,540	43	31,622
1998	62,981	62,621	46	28,806
1999	65,864	65,803	51	33,560

<sup>1/</sup> Includes fresh and processed production.



### Wild Blueberry Processed Production & Value

Maine, 1990 - 1999

